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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

JENDICK

Group Art Unit: 3653

Appln. No.: 09/723,331

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: November 28, 2000

Title: **GUIDING DEVICE FOR A MARKING ARRANGEMENT**

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May 14, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-24 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 25-48 as follows:

25. (New) A device for guiding a continuous strip past a marking unit, said strip having two opposite longitudinal edges, an upper surface and a lower surface, said marking unit being arranged to non-mechanically provide said strip with markings on at least one of said surfaces, said device comprising: